



SRMTA Fall Convention and AGM 2014 *Inspiring the Next Generation*

October 17th and 18th, 2014 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Vocal Masterclasses with Mary Lou Fallis and Peter Tiefenbach

Date: Saturday, October 17th, 2014

“The Junior Singer” 10:30 a.m.– 11:45 a.m.

4 Student placements available for 15 minutes each

Suitable for Students between 11 years old and High School Grade 12

“The Senior Student” 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

4 Student placements available for 20 minutes each

(Suitable for students 18 and older performing at an advanced level)

Mary Lou Fallis holds a unique position in the music scene as “Canada’s foremost musical comedienne.” Known to thousands of viewers and listeners across the country for the Bravo! television series *Bathroom Divas*, her CBC Radio series *Diva Diaries*, and to hundreds of theatre-goers for her *Primadonna* series of one-woman shows, Ms. Fallis in her inimitable way, has re-invented the classical music comedy genre.

A favorite of the late great Anna Russell, Ms. Fallis made her operatic debut at 16 years of age as the Second Spirit in a CBC Television production of Mozart’s *The Magic Flute*. After obtaining the first Master’s Degree in Performance and Literature from the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, her career has encompassed performances of major oratorios and choral works with leading orchestras, as well as opera – with roles ranging from Despina in *Così fan Tutte* to Zerbinetta in R. Strauss’s *Ariadne auf Naxos*. In addition to her North American engagements, Ms Fallis has toured the United Kingdom extensively, appearing in London’s West End, Covent Garden International Festival, the Wexford Opera Festival, and the Edinburgh International Festival. More recent seasons have included appearances in Japan and Iceland.

Ms. Fallis is best known as the creator and interpreter of very original one-woman shows: the ACTRA award-winning, Dora-nominated *Primadonna*, based on her own life as a singer, and its two sequels *Primadonna’s First Farewell Tour*, and *Primadonna Does More With Less*, which was premiered at the Guelph Spring Festival; *Emma, Queen of Song* about the real-life Canadian diva, Emma Albani; *The Mrs. Bach Show* hosted by Anna Magdalena, wife of J.S. Bach; and *Ms. Mozart*, the story of Wolfgang’s sister Nannerl (created for the 1991 Mozart Bicentennial). The latest incarnations are *Primadonna on a Moose* turned into a popular CD with members of the Toronto Symphony and the *Primadonna goes Camping* premiered outdoors on a wilderness Lake in Haliburton at the Forest Festival.

Ms. Fallis’ *Diva Diaries* was a popular Friday afternoon series on CBC Radio’s *Take Five* which featured the Primadonna’s personal and hilarious observations about her travels, both real and imaginary, across Canada.

Ms. Fallis was the music producer of the Gemini award winning *Bathroom Divas*, a new six-part reality TV series that quickly developed a cult following. Opera’s answer to American Idol, *Bathroom Divas* featured Ms. Fallis as part of a jury selecting the grand-prize winner from hundreds of hopefuls in a nation-wide challenge.

Ms. Fallis combines her performing with private teaching in Toronto and is in demand as an adjudicator

and clinician. She gave the keynote address to the Provincial ORMTA Conference this past August. Mary Lou lives in Toronto with her husband and a very wooly dog named Percy. She has two grown children and has recently become a grandmother.

Peter Tiefenbach is Toronto-based pianist, composer, conductor, writer and performer. A native of Regina, Saskatchewan, he holds degrees and diplomas from St Olaf College, Northwestern University, the Royal Academy of Music, and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Since 1997, he has been a member of the faculty of the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music, where he coaches singers, lectures on orchestral literature, and serves as music director of the school's fall opera production.

The longtime collaborator of soprano-comedienne Mary Lou Fallis, he also appears frequently with piano duet partner Robert Kortgaard, as well as with Kimberly Barber and the cabaret group L'Accordéoniste. His latest CD is "Christmas at Casa Diva", featuring sopranos Joni Henson and Virginia Hatfield and mezzo-soprano Megan Latham.

His compositions and arrangements are featured on recordings by Jean Stilwell, Isabel Bayrakdarian, The Canadian Brass, Elmer Iseler Singers, Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, Elora Festival Singers, Monica Whicher & Judy Loman, and Laughton & Humphreys. His current commissions include a choral work for PEI's Indian River Festival to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the Charlottetown Conference, and a set of comic songs for the Canadian Art Song Project.

As a broadcaster for CBC Radio, Mr Tiefenbach presented acclaimed series on the music of Bruckner, Strauss, and Rachmaninoff, and interviewed major figures including Witold Lutoslowski, Luciano Berio, Henri Dutilleux, Isaac Stern, Andras Schiff and Krystian Zimerman.

Student information:

1. Prepare two pieces of contrasting styles and record your selections on one audio CD-R OR one video DVD-R.
2. Include a short resume describing your musical background and experience
3. The costs for student participation in these master classes will be covered by the Saskatoon Branch of the Registered Music Teachers' Convention Bursary. The students will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses.
4. Application Deadline is June 30th, 2014
5. You will be notified of your participation by August 18th, 2014.